

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A tool for developing litigation discovery materials, the tool comprising:
an entry field available on a plurality of views not directly related to discovery to request collection of discovery requests;
a menu for gathering discovery related information in response to a request using said entry field;
storage of discovery related information gathered from said menu;
form discovery materials; and
a discovery production mechanism to combine stored discovery related information and form discovery materials to produce discovery items for use in the litigation.
2. The tool of claim 1, wherein said menu includes information related to discovery type, relevant party and a discovery request.
3. The tool of claim 2, wherein said form discovery materials include materials for a plurality of discovery types and said discovery production generation mechanism determines a desired discovery type and combines stored discovery related information and form discovery materials for the desired discovery type.
4. The tool of claim 3, wherein said discovery production mechanism further determines a relevant party for selected discovery types and combines stored discovery related information and form discovery materials relevant only to the relevant party.
5. A tool for recommending a decision in litigation, the tool comprising:
interfaces for gathering selected information relevant to the decision;
storage for the gathered selected information;
weighting values associated with each element of selected information;

an analyzer for using the stored selected information and the associated weighting values to determine a resultant value;

resultant values associated with various decision options; and

a recommendation element using the determined resultant value and the associated decision options to provide a recommended decision.

6. The tool of claim 5, further comprising:

a collection of results of the decision in prior litigation and the selected information for those litigations; and

wherein one of said analyzer and said recommendation element utilize said collected results to develop a resultant value or recommended decision.

7. The tool of claim 5, further comprising:

an output indicating the amount of selected information that has been gathered.

8. A tool for assessing a litigation, comprising:

a plurality of tools according to claim 5, each tool for a decision in the litigation;

interfaces for gathering further selected information relevant to the litigation;

storage for the further selected information; and

an assessor utilizing the decisions of each of said plurality of tools and the stored further selected information for providing an assessment.

9. The tool of claim 8, wherein said assessor includes a statistical decision tree.

10. The tool of claim 9, wherein said statistical decision tree is developed with prior litigation results and the decisions and further selected information for the litigation.

11. The tool of claim 9, wherein said statistical decision tree is developed with input from experienced lawyers.

12. The tool of claim 11, wherein said statistical decision tree is further developed with prior litigation results and the decisions and further selected information for the litigation.